Package to SSIs against global competition

1327. SHRI M.V. MYSURA REDDY:
SHRI KAMAL AKHTAR:

Will the Minister of SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that small scale industries, functioning at present, in the different parts of the country are facing a lot of difficulties including global competition and liberalized imports;

(b) whether Government have proposed to prepare any economic package and providing them Government protection to face the global competition; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES (SHRI MAHAVIR PRASAD): (a) Government is aware of the challenges of globalisation and liberalised imports faced by the Small Scale Industries (SSI) under the WTO regime, and has taken appropriate measures for preparing them to meet these challenges.

(b) and (c) The Government has specific schemes for encouraging upgradation of technology to meet global challenges to SSIs. It has already announced a "National Manufacturing Competitiveness Programme". A comprehensive "Package for the Promotion of Micro and Small Enterprises" has also been announced on 27/02/2007. Together, they provide for fiscal support, support for cluster based development, technologies and quality upgradation support, marketing support, support for entrepreneurial and managerial development and other support measures. Further, the Micro Small and Medium Enterprises Development (MSMED) Act, 2006 has been formulated as a response to the long-standing demand of the SSI sector, the emergent need to provide a legal framework to address the developmental concerns of what is globally known as "small and medium enterprises".

Arrears of wage agreement

1328. SHRI TAPAN KUMAR SEN: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that workers of IISCO have not been paid arrears of wage agreement even after its merger with SAIL;